

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EJECTING A  
REMOVABLE DATA STORAGE CARTRIDGE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A data storage cartridge (14) can be removably inserted into a drive (13), so that respective connectors (52, 67) move into engagement. Two pawls (81, 82) are biased by a spring (119), and engage the cartridge to releasably lock the cartridge in its inserted position. In order to remove the cartridge from the drive, an eject mechanism is actuated, and includes a motorized drive mechanism (221) that moves an eject member (171). The eject member disengages the pawls from the cartridge, effects sufficient movement of the cartridge so as to disengage the connectors, and positions the pawls so that they will properly engage the next cartridge inserted into the drive.